REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 17 to further clarify the subject matter of the invention. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4-17 are currently pending in this application.

In the present invention, the dispersion polarity is defined as the one in water. By defining dispersion polarity of both pigments and resin particles in water to be the same, the anti-clogging property of the ink can be induced. In other words, when the ink jet ink is maintained in an ink jet print head, both the pigment and the resin particles are maintained in water so that each of the particles will tend to resist each other to prevent clogging. However, once the ink is expelled from the ink jet print head and deposited onto a recording paper, the water used as disperser is absorbed or vaporized into the air such that dispersed pigments and resin particles congeal together with each other immediately.

Contrary to the present invention, the liquid toner of Machida et al. disperses a pigment and/or fine particles using a petroleum liquid disperser, such as isoper or the like, as disclosed in column 5, lines 24-35 of Machida et al.. Thus, Machida et al. does not have clogging of the pigment or the fine particles in an ink jet nozzles or orifices. Accordingly, the petroleum-liquid dispenser of Machida et al. does not anticipate the claimed combination of the present invention, wherein the dispersion polarity of the pigment in water is the same as the dispersion polarity of each of two or more kinds of fine particles in water.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

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